Draft of Gambling Control Board Meeting Minutes December 13, 2006 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta, Maine

Meeting opened at 12:40 p.m.

Board members present: Chairman George McHale, W. Lawrence Hall, Michael Peters, Peter Danton and Cushing Samp.

Staff members present: Exec. Director Robert Welch, Sgt. Robin Parker, Lt. Patrick Fleming, Auditor Scott Woods and Secretary Kathy Chamberlain.

Legal counsel: Melissa O'Dea, Ass't Attorney General

**Minutes from October 26, 2006 meeting approved.

Motion to accept: Mike Peters

Seconded: Cushing

Vote: 5-0

**Executive Director's Report – Robert Welch

- Explanation of the Fund for Healthy Maine slot revenue recipient: So far, this account has received three million dollars from revenues. No information yet as to whether it has brought down the costs of prescription drugs. A side note as to revenues for the harness racing track, purses contain \$8,000 more per race.
- Gaming Unit Practices and Procedures: Mr. Welch has written up a document, outlining his job duties, procedures for implementation to carry out the duties and other pertinent information which will be on file as a reference for the unit.
- Updated Notebook of Rules and Laws for the Board was passed out to the board, containing the latest updates as was finalized by the Secretary of State's office.
- Gambling Control Conference Room Wiring Project was discussed briefly. Mr. Welch is waiting to see if the money will be in his budget to proceed with the project.
- Upcoming Rule Submissions: Mr. Welch met with Bruce Badger of Hollywood Slots in regards to Chapter 5, Rule 2:D. dealing with surveillance not being used for live monitoring of non-gambling areas. The wording needs to be changed to reflect that it does not apply to monitors in public areas.
- Progressive Gaming's (formerly called Mikohn) business entity application has been received and is being processed.
- The financial page on our website will be updated with a new format soon, that will hopefully be a little easier to understand than what has been currently used.
- A privately prepared document entitled, "An Act to Allow a Casino in Oxford County" was passed out to the Board. A representative from Evergreen Mountain Enterprises, LLC met with

Dir. Welch last week and provided informational copies of the proposed ballot initiative the group intends to submit once they get enough signatures, for the November 2007 ballot.

**Financial Update - Scott Woods

Board members received Mr. Wood's weekly revenue sheet. He advised that the State of Maine Audit Department is auditing the Gambling Control Unit – so far everything is going well. He continues to check with the different slot revenue recipients to make sure all is orderly and they are receiving the dedicated funds in their individual accounts.

**State Police Activity Update – Sgt. Robin Parker

Sgt. Parker advised the Board that the State Police staff comprising of him, Detective Armstrong, Inspectors Russell and Olson have a system of checks and balances to make sure all is in order at the Racino. They inspect on a daily basis: security logs, surveillance logs as well as individual reports received to make sure the Internal Controls are being adhered to at Hollywood Slots. There was a theft recently of a \$1,000 voucher; Bangor P.D. has made an arrest. Det. Armstrong went to Las Vegas recently to conduct some interviews of key executives. Twenty two applications have been received and being processed since the last Board meeting.

**Unfinished Business:

None.

**New Business:

Dir. Welch will mail out some proposed rules in the next week or so.

• Public Comments

Jon Johnson, General Mgr of Hollywood Slots (HS), provided the Board with a financial report for the period of November 2005 through November 2006, which shows the cumulative revenue amounts that have gone to each designated account for the past year. The number of guests that have visited Hollywood Slots during the first year open are 936,672. Mr. Johnson discussed that specifically the monies received for the Track, helped to offset losses. Improvements cost 1.2 million; monies received were approximately \$400,000. The O.T.B. will be moved to the new facility. Asked if the horsemen minded the move away from the track, Mr. Johnson replied that they appeared to be o.k. with it, because it will tie racing in with the racino.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Next meeting dates are set for Wednesday, January 17, 2007 and Wednesday, February 14, 2007.